

## CENSUS

## UNITED STATES FOREIGN TRADE

SUMMARY REPORT  
FT 930-I

AUGUST 1959

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## IMPORT TRADE BY COMMODITY

The Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, announced today that the decline in United States imports for consumption from \$1,236.1 million in July to \$1,190.7 million in August, a drop of about four percent, reflected decreases in imports of finished manufactures, semimanufactures, and manufactured foodstuffs which were partly offset by increases in imports of crude foodstuffs and crude materials. August imports for consumption were, however, about 24 percent above the August 1958 imports for consumption total of \$961.4 million.

The Bureau further stated that for the first eight months of 1959 imports for consumption were valued at \$9,740.4 million, an increase of about 19 percent over the total of \$8,242.7 million for the first eight months of 1958.

A decrease in imports of finished manufactures, from \$455.1 million to \$403.1 million from July to August, resulted from a decline in imports of automobiles and parts, from \$79.4 to \$58.2 million, agricultural machinery and implements, from \$15.2 to \$9.8 million, and less noticeable decreases in most of the other commodities in this class. The lower level of imports of semimanufactures, \$253.8 million

in August as compared to \$270.9 million in July, was primarily due to declines in imports of iron and steel semimanufactures, from \$27.2 to \$20.0 million, and sawed boards, planks, and deals, from \$36.9 to \$31.1 million. A drop in imports of cane sugar from \$58.1 to \$48.3 million was the chief reason for the decrease in imports of manufactured foodstuffs from \$149.1 million to \$137.0 million.

Crude foodstuffs, which showed an increase in imports from \$116.2 to \$144.9 million, reflected a large increase in imports of raw coffee from \$61.4 to \$99.5 million. This gain was partly offset by slight decreases in imports of several of the individual commodities of this class. Crude materials registered a small increase, from \$244.8 million in July to \$251.8 million in August. However, this slight change reflected several noticeable changes in the individual commodities of this class. Imports of unmanufactured cotton showed a rise from \$0.3 to \$16.5 million and crude petroleum increased from \$60.2 to \$66.8 million. These two increases were largely offset by decreases in imports of the following commodities; diamonds for industrial use, from \$7.3 to \$2.8 million; lead, from \$4.7 to \$1.0 million; and zinc, from \$6.1 to \$2.4 million.

## EXPLANATION OF STATISTICS

**COVERAGE:** Import statistics include merchandise imported by government agencies as well as by private importers, but exclude American goods returned by the United States armed forces for their own use. United States trade with Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and United States possessions is not included in this report, but the import trade of Puerto Rico and Hawaii with foreign countries is included as a part of the United States import trade. Merchandise shipped in-transit through the United States between foreign countries is not included in import statistics.

**VALUATION:** Import values are, in general, based on market price or selling price, and are, in general, f.o.b. the exporting country. Import values also exclude United States import duties. None of the values have been adjusted for changes in price level.

**EFFECT OF SAMPLING:** Effective January 1958 formal entry shipments valued less than \$100 and informal entry shipments valued \$250 or less (less than one percent of total import value) are estimated by

sampling. These estimated values are shown in this table as "Estimated value \$1-\$99 formal and \$1-\$250 informal entry shipments" and are arbitrarily included in the total for "Finished manufactures". Prior to 1958 all imports valued \$250 or less whether reported on formal or informal entries were estimated by sampling and were shown separately by economic class. For convenience these estimates for 1957 are now included in the "All other" category for each economic class. For an indication of the effect the change in coverage and the change in presentation of sampled transactions have on the economic classes and commodity totals shown in this report effective with data for 1958, see the January 1958 issue of FT 930-I.

Further information regarding coverage, valuation, etc., is contained in the "General Explanation" in foreword of Report No. FT 110. For complete statement, see the foreword in Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States.

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UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:  
AUGUST 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS

(Quantity in units indicated; value in millions of dollars. Imports for consumption are a total of imports for immediate consumption plus withdrawals for consumption from bonded warehouses. Figures for 1959 are as originally issued and have not been revised to include published corrections. Figures for 1958 include revisions published with the December 1958 reports, or earlier, but do not include revisions published during 1959. Totals represent sum of unrounded figures, hence may vary slightly from sum of rounded amounts. See the "Explanation of Statistics" for information on sampling procedures and effect thereof on data shown.)

Economic class and commodity	August 1959	July 1959	August 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Total.....value..	1,190.7	1,236.1	961.4	1,061.2	1,079.2
Free.....value..	459.6	442.7	364.2	444.6	503.0
Dutiable.....value..	731.1	793.4	597.2	616.6	576.2
Crude materials.....value..	251.8	244.8	220.1	230.2	267.6
Hides and skins.....value..	5.6	7.4	4.7	4.5	4.1
Undressed furs.....value..	3.0	4.9	2.7	6.7	6.6
Crude rubber.....1,000,000 lb..	102	107	88	89	104
value..	32.2	32.3	19.3	20.9	29.4
Copra.....1,000 lb..	67,012	55,732	49,387	50,102	53,713
value..	6.4	6.1	4.4	4.0	3.4
Tobacco, unmanufactured.....1,000 lb..	13,324	13,481	12,827	11,548	10,345
value..	9.7	10.0	9.7	8.7	8.0
Cotton, unmanufactured.....1,000 lb..	53,145	7,219	46,298	12,190	13,692
value..	16.5	0.3	18.3	2.5	5.2
Jute and jute butts.....long tons..	2,547	5,033	454	3,121	4,977
value..	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.7	1.2
Sisal and henequen.....long tons..	10,868	8,319	5,850	16,306	10,409
value..	1.8	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.5
Wool, unmanufactured, free.....(1,000,000 lb.)..actual weight..	16	18	10	13	14
clean content <sup>1</sup> ..	12	14	8	10	10
value..	8.3	9.2	4.7	6.6	8.5
Wool, unmanufactured, dutiable.....(1,000,000 lb.)..actual weight..	10	10	6	9	10
clean content <sup>1</sup> ..	7	7	4	6	7
value..	6.4	6.0	4.6	7.1	9.1
Pulpwood.....1,000 cords..	104	101	161	114	147
value..	2.8	2.4	3.5	2.4	3.0
Crude petroleum.....1,000 bbl..	29,644	27,181	30,960	31,977	32,150
value..	66.8	60.2	74.6	78.3	81.7
Diamonds, rough or uncut.....1,000 carats..	166	232	78	94	83
value..	10.0	13.5	5.6	6.0	6.4
Diamonds, for industrial use.....1,000 carats..	536	1,202	265	839	1,051
value..	2.8	7.3	1.2	3.3	4.3
Iron ore and concentrates.....1,000 long tons..	3,182	3,188	2,845	2,294	2,806
value..	27.6	27.8	24.4	19.3	23.8
Ferroalloying ores.....value..	8.7	8.5	8.7	11.4	18.5
Copper (copper content).....1,000 lb..	15,007	3,640	7,440	16,884	18,994
value..	4.3	1.1	1.7	3.8	5.5
Lead (lead content).....1,000 lb..	11,291	47,932	5,329	40,377	39,676
value..	1.0	4.7	0.5	4.3	5.3
Tin (tin content).....long tons..	61	...	...	455	8
value..	0.1	(*)	...	0.9	(*)
Zinc (zinc content).....1,000 lb..	62,270	123,234	36,512	90,236	113,656
value..	2.4	6.1	1.9	4.3	7.4
Other nonferrous ores and concentrates.....value..	6.2	8.0	5.3	6.2	6.0
All other crude materials <sup>2</sup> .....value..	28.9	26.8	23.3	26.9	28.7
Crude foodstuffs.....value..	144.9	116.2	120.4	161.4	168.4
Fish and shellfish.....1,000 lb..	47,470	49,054	52,091	39,847	32,738
value..	11.6	14.8	14.2	12.2	10.2
Cattle, except for breeding.....thousands..	22	46	51	94	59
value..	3.0	6.3	6.8	10.8	5.5
Grains.....value..	2.0	5.1	2.7	4.2	5.8
Vegetables, fresh and dried.....value..	1.1	0.9	1.0	3.8	2.2
Bananas.....1,000 bunches..	3,937	4,861	3,520	4,064	3,976
value..	5.4	6.5	4.6	5.8	5.8
Cocoa or cacao beans.....1,000,000 lb..	28	28	13	37	43
value..	9.4	9.4	5.1	14.4	11.2
Coffee, raw or green.....1,000,000 lb..	286	166	165	222	230
value..	99.5	61.4	73.1	97.5	114.7
Tea.....1,000 lb..	8,228	9,696	8,784	8,618	8,536
value..	3.7	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.2
Black pepper, unground.....1,000 lb..	2,330	2,387	3,257	2,889	2,713
value..	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6
All other crude foodstuffs <sup>2</sup> .....value..	8.7	7.2	8.0	8.1	8.1

See footnotes at end of table.

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:  
AUGUST 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity	August 1959	July 1959	August 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Manufactured foodstuffs.....value..	137.0	149.1	119.4	125.4	106.0
Meat products.....1,000 lb..	87,863	87,114	85,760	70,817	34,084
value..	34.9	35.3	31.7	27.9	15.3
Cheese.....1,000 lb..	3,614	3,906	2,840	4,645	4,240
value..	1.8	2.0	1.4	2.3	2.2
Fish and shellfish canned, prepared, etc.....1,000 lb..	38,443	44,363	38,874	39,886	37,175
value..	11.0	12.2	11.0	11.0	10.6
Fodders and feeds.....value..	1.0	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.7
Cane sugar.....1,000,000 lb..	875	1,049	742	772	690
value..	48.3	58.1	41.4	43.3	38.3
Molasses.....1,000 gal..	25,829	31,088	24,296	28,698	20,076
value..	3.0	4.1	3.0	3.7	3.3
Whisky.....value..	14.4	12.4	10.7	13.2	12.5
All other manufactured foodstuffs <sup>2</sup> .....value..	22.6	23.6	18.3	22.2	22.2
Semimanufactures.....value..	253.8	270.9	197.8	220.1	243.3
Leather.....value..	4.2	4.8	2.3	2.6	2.6
Bristles.....1,000 lb..	350	313	117	200	208
value..	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.6
Expressed oils, inedible.....value..	4.6	5.6	3.9	4.1	4.2
Quebracho.....1,000 lb..	8,396	4,533	7,082	9,300	10,296
value..	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8
Wool semimanufactures.....value..	5.2	5.5	3.6	3.7	4.0
Sawed boards, planks, deals, etc.....1,000,000 bd. ft..	372	447	334	283	245
value..	31.1	36.9	25.8	21.8	20.2
Wood pulp.....1,000 short tons..	190	214	160	175	175
value..	25.2	27.1	21.6	23.1	22.8
Gas and fuel oil.....1,000 bbl..	12,523	11,891	14,037	17,566	15,431
value..	25.9	23.9	33.1	41.6	41.4
Asbestos.....long tons..	47,297	56,421	48,887	43,706	46,670
value..	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.0	4.2
Diamonds, cut but not set.....1,000 carats..	55	76	47	60	51
value..	5.8	8.0	4.6	5.7	5.5
Iron and steel semimanufactures.....value..	20.0	27.2	8.9	7.5	4.8
Aluminum.....value..	18.3	17.8	8.1	11.8	10.8
Copper (copper content).....1,000,000 lb..	47	49	7	56	79
value..	14.4	14.2	1.8	13.7	23.7
Lead (lead content).....1,000 lb..	40,123	56,403	48,423	61,166	56,519
value..	5.0	7.4	4.9	6.6	7.6
Nickel and alloys.....1,000 lb..	19,652	12,123	17,586	15,448	23,133
value..	12.7	7.9	11.2	10.2	16.8
Tin.....1,000 lb..	6,783	6,277	8,635	8,275	11,422
value..	6.7	6.2	7.7	7.5	10.9
Zinc.....1,000 lb..	17,538	46,092	33,894	31,111	44,907
value..	1.8	4.6	3.1	2.9	5.4
Coal-tar products.....value..	5.2	6.3	5.0	3.9	3.9
Industrial chemicals.....value..	7.7	8.0	5.3	6.0	5.8
Fertilizers and materials.....1,000 short tons..	234	315	132	128	132
value..	6.5	4.0	5.2	4.9	5.0
All other semimanufactures <sup>2</sup> .....value..	47.5	<sup>3</sup> 49.7	36.7	37.2	42.5
Finished manufactures.....value..	403.1	455.1	303.7	324.2	293.9
Leather manufactures.....value..	9.1	7.6	7.7	5.1	4.0
Essential or distilled oils.....value..	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.7
Cotton cloth.....1,000 sq. yd..	17,244	18,307	10,350	11,795	10,208
value..	3.4	3.8	2.8	3.2	2.9
Other cotton manufactures.....value..	13.5	<sup>3</sup> 11.0	11.0	9.3	8.1
Burlap.....1,000 yd..	76,841	74,055	60,132	70,910	71,349
value..	45,399	46,018	33,478	40,641	41,253
value..	7.1	7.1	5.1	6.3	6.7
Flax, hemp and ramie manufactures.....value..	2.2	2.5	1.8	2.3	2.5
Wool manufactures.....value..	15.1	17.7	10.6	10.9	11.3
Silk manufactures.....value..	6.7	6.0	4.8	4.8	4.7
Shingles.....1,000 squares..	62	169	210	178	159
value..	0.7	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.6
Newsprint.....1,000 short tons..	434	434	368	407	435
value..	54.9	54.2	46.1	51.3	54.8
Other paper manufactures.....value..	6.2	7.0	4.7	5.0	4.9
Pottery.....value..	4.8	5.2	4.3	3.9	3.7

See footnotes at end of table.





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UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES  
AUGUST 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity	August 1959	July 1959	August 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Finished manufactures—Continued					
Steel mill products.....value..	29.1	32.2	12.8	13.4	14.7
Iron and steel advanced manufactures.....value..	8.5	10.2	6.3	6.4	6.1
Agricultural machinery and implements.....value..	9.8	15.2	6.4	10.2	6.6
Automobiles and parts.....value..	58.2	79.4	43.7	46.0	28.1
Other machinery.....value..	37.9	42.1	26.3	28.8	28.1
Vehicles, except automobiles.....value..	9.6	11.4	6.9	10.5	8.0
Photographic goods.....value..	4.7	5.3	4.0	3.4	3.3
Scientific and professional instruments.....value..	2.7	3.1	2.4	2.4	2.2
Musical instruments and parts.....value..	2.3	2.4	1.6	1.6	1.7
Toys and sporting goods.....value..	5.1	5.8	4.0	3.4	3.5
Watches and watch movements, except parts.....value..	4.3	4.7	3.1	3.9	4.7
American goods returned.....value..	18.8	19.5	13.8	16.6	15.8
All other finished manufactures <sup>2</sup> .....value..	76.2	87.1	60.7	64.4	64.1
Estimated value \$1-\$99 formal and \$1-\$250 informal entry shipments <sup>2</sup> .....value..	10.7	11.3	9.7	8.3	xxx

\*Indicates less than \$50,000.

<sup>1</sup>Includes the actual weight of carbonized wool.

<sup>2</sup>For an explanation of the sampling procedures, see "Effect of Sampling" on front page.

<sup>3</sup>Figures revised subsequent to the release of the July 1959 issue of Report No. FT 930-I.